



\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*

Captain Neil Weaver  
Government and Media Relations

May 4, 2023

**Sergeant Chelsea Hodgson**

**Phone:** (360) 265-1332

**Email:** [chelsea.hodgson@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:chelsea.hodgson@wsp.wa.gov)

### YVSIU Investigates Yakima Officer-Involved Shooting

**YAKIMA, Wash.** – The Yakima Valley Special Investigations Unit (YVSIU) is investigating an officer-involved shooting that occurred at around 7 a.m. Wednesday at a residence in the 100 block of Union Street in Yakima.

Yakima Police Department (YPD) officers responded to the residence after receiving reports of a disturbance. Officers arrived on scene and contacted an individual outside the residence. During the contact, three officers utilized lethal force resulting in the individual sustaining gunshot wounds.

The individual was pronounced deceased at the scene despite lifesaving efforts. No involved officers sustained injuries during the incident.

The YVSIU is comprised of multiple law enforcement agencies within Yakima County, as well as the Washington State Patrol (WSP). The WSP will be the lead investigating agency for this incident. The WSP Government and Media Relations (GMR) Division will provide all future media communications regarding this incident.

The Yakima Police Department will name the involved officers at a later time. The Yakima County Coroner's Office will release the name of the decedent when appropriate.

The YVSIU will forward the case to the Yakima County Prosecutor's Office for review once the case is complete.

*This update is required in compliance with WAC 139-12, which mandates weekly updates be sent out by the lead investigative agency in investigations where a Washington State Peace Officer uses deadly force in the capacity of his or her law enforcement duties. These updates are required even if no new information is available at the time of the update.*

With the passage of [Washington State Initiative 940](#) in 2018, and [Substitute House Bill 1064](#) in 2019, incidents where the use of deadly force by a peace officer results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm require an independent investigation. This investigation must be conducted in the

same manner as a criminal investigation and state law now requires an “independent investigation” completely independent of the involved agency.

Per WAC 139-12, the IIT is unable to release any criminal history related to the individual, which includes the circumstances surrounding the initial contact, which prompted the law enforcement response. This information can only be released if specifically requested by the media, and is able to be released consistent with the Public Records Act Chapter 42.56 RCW.

Weekly updates will be provided as the investigation continues. The policies and operating procedures of the IIT are available to the public at: <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/independent-investigation-team/>.

###